



# *The Old Ironsides Report*

*Friday, October 17, 2003*

## A Day in the Life of a By Daring Deeds Soldier

By CPT Wayne F. Rush

BAGHDAD, IRAQ – The day begins early for our soldiers as they continue the vital mission of providing force protection for the Baghdad International Airport, or BIAP as we call it.

Be they still vigilant at a checkpoint, preparing breakfast or conducting PT in preparation for their missions, most 1st Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery soldiers are up at the break of day. Immediately after Physical Training, the oncoming force providers conduct their guard mount reviewing situational vignettes and a brief on the latest intelligence.

While our soldiers on checkpoint execute the force protection mission, many others play roles supporting their fight. Maintenance is still conducted to Army standards as our equipment and crews are tested to new limits. The fight to keep vehicles and equipment ready is constant. Mechanics roll out to checkpoints to fix equipment on the spot or bring it back to the compound for major repair work.

The battalion's motor pool is always humming with activity by day or night as recovery operations continue until the dead-lined vehicle is back in the fight.

Along with the fight to maintain vehicles and equipment, is the fight to sustain our force providers. From ice deliveries shuttled to each checkpoint to hot chow twice daily, our logisticians are always doing their best to support our soldiers on point. In the event of an emergency, medics are always ready to respond to any accident or casualty within minutes of receiving the call.

All of these various specialties allow our battalion to execute our daring deeds daily. For our soldiers not on checkpoint, their duties continue in preparation for the next mission.

Coming off checkpoint after their 24-hour duty, our force providers are given that day to sleep, recover and conduct personal hygiene. Most sack out in their quarters immediately after getting off checkpoint, others write letters, try to call home, or email a message.

After their slumber, soldiers work out on make-shift weight-lifting equipment, conduct personal or team PT or play games to escape BIAP for a few moments.

Oncoming force providers roll out to the BIAP checkpoints in their Avenger and Stinger trucks to relieve the outgoing shift that just completed their 24-hour shift. Each checkpoint manages the traffic flow onto and off of the airport to ensure unauthorized individuals do not breach the perimeter. Civilian contractors, military convoys and residents stopping by with queries, our soldiers interact with a multitude of visitors daily.

At the busiest checkpoints, interpreters allow our soldiers to communicate with the Iraqi people. These interpreters live on the airport in the Airport Village. Many were white-collar professionals before the war and are now employed by Coalition forces.

As the traffic volume increases from 9 a.m. onward, so



**On point for the Nation. A typical busy day at the main checkpoint into the Baghdad International Airport. Photo by Sgt. Casey Cooper.**

too does the soaring temperatures, reaching 110 degrees in the shade and upwards of 130 degrees in the tracked vehicle's turret.

Along with the natural heat, throughout the day a range of situations arise. A long day has just begun on point for our Nation.

Their locations are diverse, but the mission is the same at every checkpoint: to secure the perimeter of BIAP against all external threats.

Backing up our soldiers on the checkpoints are the multiple Quick Reaction Forces positioned throughout BIAP. These forces conduct mounted and dismounted presence patrols into the two villages within the airport perimeter. Some patrols are random; others respond to an external threats during the day and at night. The majority of Iraqis encountered on the presence patrols are friendly and grateful to be rid of Saddam's thugs. Every BSFV, Avenger or Stinger truck QRF is ready to react to any situation in five minutes or less.

As the daylight fades, the shift is only half over for soldiers on checkpoint. Stubbornly the outside temperature trickles a few degrees off the thermometer as night sets in. The incessant mosquitoes take their toll just as the daylight heat wave wanes.

Searching, detaining non-complying individuals and helping Iraqis with questions or concerns, all of these situations are encountered daily on checkpoint.

Curfew for non-military persons begins at 11 p.m. and ends at 4 a.m. Those breaking the curfew could be detained and taken to the Enemy Prisoner of War camp on BIAP.

Naturally, the vigilant soldiers on checkpoint are at their most alert during these quiet hours so most nights pass by without incident.

The morning sun arises and another "By Daring Deeds" day starts anew.

## NEWS

### **U.N. Unanimously Adopts Iraq Resolution**

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - In a diplomatic victory for the U.S., the Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution Thursday aimed at attracting more troops and money to stabilize Iraq and putting it on the road to independence. The vote bolstered U.S. efforts to win credibility for its rebuilding effort in Iraq and to ease the burden of American forces there. But at a summit in Brussels, some European leaders ruled out any immediate commitments of financial or military aid.

### **11th Person Feared Dead in Ferry Accident**

NEW YORK (AP) - Divers searched for an 11th person missing and presumed dead Thursday as a probe into the horrific crash of a Staten Island ferry focused on whether its pilot fell unconscious while crossing New York Harbor. In addition to 10 confirmed deaths, a Staten Island woman was presumed dead on the morning after the city's worst mass transit accident in at least a generation.

### **Malaysian Urges Muslims to Unite Vs. Jews**

PUTRAJAYA, Malaysia (AP) - Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad on Thursday told a summit of Islamic leaders that "Jews rule the world by proxy" and the world's 1.3 billion Muslims should unite, using nonviolent means for a "final victory." His speech at the Organization of the Islamic Conference summit, which he was hosting, drew criticism from Jewish leaders, who warned it could spark more violence against Jews.

### **Pope Celebrates His 25th Anniversary**

VATICAN CITY (AP) - Pope John Paul II celebrated his 25th anniversary Thursday, reaching a milestone matched by only three of his predecessors and pushing ahead with his agenda despite increasingly debilitating infirmities. About 50,000 pilgrims packed St. Peter's Square for the anniversary Mass that began at 6 p.m. - about the same time a quarter-century ago that white smoke from a Vatican chimney alerted the world that a Polish cardinal named Karol Wojtyla had been elected the first non-Italian pope in 455 years.

#### **SAFETY TIP Range Safety**

*"The nature of our profession will not allow for either complacency or a cavalier acceptance of risk."*

Gen. Dennis J. Reimer  
Former Army Chief of Staff

- Regardless of being in a combat zone, all ranges will be conducted IAW AR 385-63, Range Safety, and all related weapons manuals.
- DO NOT "SHOOT FROM THE HIP"!
- Do not enter the range complex unless you have communication with, and are cleared by, the range controlling authority.

## *In Other News...*

### **Man Trains Dog to Perform Nazi Salute**

BERLIN (AP) -- A man who trained his German shepherd to raise a paw in imitation of the Nazi salute won't be prosecuted for the unusual trick, although he faces other charges, including allegedly shouting "Heil Hitler!" just before the dog's feat.

Displaying Nazi symbols in public is a crime in Germany.

Police stopped the 54-year-old man, identified only as Roland T., in March after he was heard shouting the Nazi slogan.

As the officers watched, he called a command - "Do the salute" - to his dog, named Adolf, and the German shepherd mongrel raised its right paw, the Bild newspaper reported.

Since the man faces trial Thursday on several similar violations that are more serious, the Berlin court dropped charges relating to his training of the dog.

The man also was stopped by police at another time this year for shouting "Heil Hitler" on a busy street and for walking around in a Hitler T-shirt, Bild said.

He faces up to three years in prison under postwar laws meant to prevent any recurrence of Nazism.

### **Report: Portion of Roy's Skull Removed**

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Doctors surgically removed a portion of illusionist Roy Horn's skull after he was mauled by a trained white tiger during a performance on the Las Vegas Strip. Las Vegas neurosurgeon Lonnie Hammargren said about one-fourth of the right side of the star's skull was removed to relieve cranial pressure in the crucial hours after the Oct. 3 attack. He said Horn suffered a "pretty big stroke" but that his paralysis might only be temporary.

#### ***Chaplain's Thought for the Day:* God of Light**

Even darkness is not dark for you, and the night is as bright as the day. -Psalm 139:12 (TEV)

Madeline Perterson writes: IN the twinkling of an eye, in the few seconds it took for me to realize I had a lump that probably was not a good thing, my world was turned upside down. Suddenly my full calendar for the coming week became insignificant in the face of the threat of cancer. What lay ahead? Would I win or lose the battle if I had this frightening disease?

The psalmist knew that there are times in our lives when darkness overwhelms us. We feel lost and alone; we are afraid God cannot find us. How thankful we should be that this is not true. When the darkness engulfs us, it does not engulf God. For God, the night is as bright as the day.

The months after her cancer diagnosis became a blur of treatments and hospitalizations. But with God's help, the darkness was not as dark; the depths of misery were not as deep as they might have been. And each day held something to celebrate.

Experiencing the dark makes the light more beautiful.

# The Old Ironsides Report

October 17, 2003

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2003				As of: Thursday, October 16, 2003 9:04:12 PM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
0:00	AROUND THE HORN		MASTERPIECE THEATER : - WUTHERING HEIGHTS	TODAY	60 MINUTES II	0:00
0:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN				0:30
1:00	SPORTSCENTER				HEADLINE NEWS	1:00
1:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	1:30
2:00		ESPNEWS	RUGRATS : - CRIME AND PUNISHMENT/ BABY MAYBE	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	2:00
2:30	NHL - AVALANCHE @ WILD	ESPNEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - THE ALGAE'S ALWAYS GREENER/ SPONGE GAURD ON DUTY		CBS EVENING NEWS	2:30
3:00		MLB - ALCS GM 7: RED SOX @ NY YANKEES	THE SIMPSON : - MAXIMUM HOMER DRIVE	TELETUBBIES : - NUMBERS '5	THE NEWSHOUR	3:00
3:30			HOME IMPROVEMENT : - ARRIVEDERCI, BINFORD	WHEEL OF FORTUNE		3:30
4:00			CHARMED : - SIREN SONG	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	HANNITY & COLMES	4:00
5:00	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - MWC: AIR FORCE @ COLORADO STATE		THE JEFF CORWIN EXPERIENCE : - INDONESIA: THE ORANGUTAN FREEDOM JOURNEY	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW : - VIEWERS TALK BACK	THE NEWS WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS	5:00
6:00		HEADLINE NEWS	EMERGENCY VETS	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	6:00
6:30		ESPNEWS	WILD ON THE SET : - ANIMAL FOILS	JUDGE JUDY	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	6:30
7:00		HEADLINE NEWS	IRON CHEF : - PRAWNS/CHEN VS TAKASH SAITO	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	LARRY KING LIVE	7:00
7:25				GUIDING LIGHT		7:25
7:30		HEADLINE NEWS				7:30
8:00	NFL LIVE	SESAME STREET	AUSTIN CITY LIMITS : - LOS LOBOS/RATDOG		NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	8:00
8:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL		8:13
8:30	54321					8:30
9:00	SPORTSCENTER	TELETUBBIES : - NUMBERS '5	THE ENTERTAINERS	CALILOU : - WHEN I GROW UP	PAULA ZAHN NOW	9:00
9:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE		WEEKENDERS : - THE INVITED		9:30
10:00	NHL - COLORADO AVALANCHE @ MINNESOTA WILD	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW : - VIEWERS TALK BACK	RUGRATS : - CRIME AND PUNISHMENT/ BABY MAYBE	POWERPUFF GIRLS : - JUST ANOTHER MANIC MIMIC MIMIC FOR A CHANGE	NIGHTLINE	10:00
10:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - THE ALGAE'S ALWAYS GREENER/ SPONGE GAURD ON DUTY	THE PROUD FAMILY : - SEVEN DAYS OF KWANZAA	HEADLINE NEWS	10:30
11:00		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	THE SIMPSON : - MAXIMUM HOMER DRIVE	JEOPARDY!	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	11:00
11:25		GUIDING LIGHT				11:25
11:30			HOME IMPROVEMENT : - ARRIVEDERCI, BINFORD	HEADLINE NEWS		11:30
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00			CHARMED : - SIREN SONG	ESPNEWS	PRIME TIME	12:00
12:13		GENERAL HOSPITAL				12:13
12:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION			HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	THE JEFF CORWIN EXPERIENCE : - INDONESIA: THE ORANGUTAN FREEDOM JOURNEY	KING OF THE HILL : - MEGALO DALE	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:30		JUDGE JUDY		MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE		13:30
14:00	MLB - ALCS GM 7: RED SOX @ NY YANKEES	TODAY	EMERGENCY VETS	SURVIVOR: PEARL ISLANDS	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	14:00
14:30			WILD ON THE SET : - ANIMAL FOILS			14:30
15:00			IRON CHEF : - PRAWNS/CHEN VS TAKASH SAITO	24 : - DAY 2: 8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.		15:00
16:00		CALILOU : - WHEN I GROW UP	AUSTIN CITY LIMITS : - LOS LOBOS/RATDOG	HEADLINE NEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	16:00
16:22				PACIFIC REPORT		16:22
16:30		WEEKENDERS : - THE INVITED		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO	CHANNEL ONE	16:30
16:45					WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	16:45
17:00	ESPNEWS	POWERPUFF GIRLS : - JUST ANOTHER MANIC MIMIC MIMIC FOR A CHANGE	THE ENTERTAINERS		THE EARLY SHOW	17:00
17:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE PROUD FAMILY : - SEVEN DAYS OF KWANZAA		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN		17:30
18:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY!	RUGRATS : - CRIME AND PUNISHMENT/ BABY MAYBE			18:00
18:30		HEADLINE NEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - THE ALGAE'S ALWAYS GREENER/ SPONGE GAURD ON DUTY	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		18:30
19:00	INSIDE THE NFL	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSON : - MAXIMUM HOMER DRIVE	I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER	FOX NEWS LIVE	19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	HOME IMPROVEMENT : - ARRIVEDERCI, BINFORD			19:30
20:00	SPORTSCENTER	KING OF THE HILL : - MEGALO DALE	CHARMED : - SIREN SONG		FOX NEWS	20:00
20:30		MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE				20:30
21:00	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - ACC: CLEMSON @ NC STATE	SURVIVOR: PEARL ISLANDS	THE JEFF CORWIN EXPERIENCE : - INDONESIA: THE ORANGUTAN FREEDOM JOURNEY	OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE	FOX NEWS LIVE	21:00
21:15						21:15
22:00		24 : - DAY 2: 8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.	EMERGENCY VETS		STUDIO B WITH SHEPARD SMITH	22:00
22:30			WILD ON THE SET : - ANIMAL FOILS			22:30
23:00	ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	IRON CHEF : - PRAWNS/CHEN VS TAKASH SAITO	TODAY	INSIDE POLITICS	23:00
23:30	ESPNEWS	TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO			HEADLINE NEWS	23:30